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September 12, 2011

CATAWBA COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER TO OFFER FREE RABIES VACCINES IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD RABIES DAY

Catawba County Animal Services will be offering free rabies vaccines to pets of county citizens on World Rabies Day, thanks to 250 vaccines provided by the World Rabies Organization and Pfizer Animal Health.

Vaccines will be administered on a first-come, first-serve basis at the Catawba County Animal Shelter off Highway 321 Business in Newton, North Carolina, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or until the supply is depleted, on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. In an effort to reach as many citizens as possible, the offer is limited to one animal per citizen.

Though not required, citizens are encouraged to bring a bag or can of dog or cat food in exchange for the vaccine. The donated food will then be offered to county citizens in a similar first-come, first-served format on Saturday, September 24, 2011, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

"These events offer a combination of unique opportunities," said Jay Blatche, Animal Services Manager. "First, we're able to offer essential health protection to many animals in our community and raise awareness about the importance of vaccinating against rabies. Then, through donated food, we're able to pay it forward and provide good nutrition for needy animals in our area."

The Catawba County Animal Shelter will continue normal operations during these events. Donations of dog and cat food will also be accepted at the shelter at any time.

The Catawba County Animal Shelter is located at 100-C Southwest Blvd. behind the Sheriff's Office/Justice Center, in Newton, North Carolina. Shelter hours are Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For more information concerning these events, contact the Catawba County Animal Shelter at 828-465-8228. For further information about Catawba County Animal Services and to see a list of adoptable animals, visit http://www.catawbacountync.gov/animal/adopt.asp.